

National and University Library of Iceland

ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2008

Name of country: **Iceland**

Name of library: **National and University Library of Iceland - NULI**

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1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.

The Library is both the National Library and the library for the University of Iceland. It is a research library that shall maintain effective and comprehensive information services in the fields of science and scholarship, government, culture and economy. In accordance with the 2005 performance target agreement between NULI and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the library's position as a knowledge provider has been underlined. With reference to the dual functions, emphasis has been placed mainly on *a digital national library* and *a digital research library*.

2. Note of the reporting library's relationship to government, and citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.

A bill for a new legislation for NULI was introduced in the Althingi in 2008 but did not pass. The University of Iceland and the Iceland University of Education merged on July 1st 2008, under the name University of Iceland. The structure of the new university is currently under revision but will consist of five schools.

3. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

Holdings:	
– general collections – units	980.000
– archives – units	15.000
– music and film collection – units	18.500
– web archive – documents	450.000.000
– digitized material – pages	3.000.000
Access:	
– national licences – journals	14.000
– national licences – databases	14
– NULI licences – journals	1.200
– NULI licences – databases	23
Staff (FTE)	83
Operating expenditure - in million ISK	798.3

4. New developments in creating and building collections.

▪ Digitisation

The digitization policy of NULI was revised in June 2008 and the main emphasis has been on digitization of Icelandic newspapers until year 2000. The project will finish in 2009.

- *Web Archiving*

NULI harvests the Icelandic web domain .is and other Icelandic related websites by rules that were developed in 2006.

- *Legal deposit, collaborative and commercial models*

According to Legal deposit laws from 2002 NULI shall collect all material published in Iceland, about Iceland and Icelanders and by Icelanders. The format can be on paper, microforms, slides, sound recordings, films, digital and published on the web. This is achieved through printing presses, publishers, authors and by paid acquisitions. Preparations for collection and preservation of born digital documents started in 2008 and the first guidelines for legal deposit of that material were distributed. And as many artists and musicians publish their works themselves and some only make it available on the internet, the library started a MySpace page to get a better overview of the situation and to encourage people to send copies to the library.

5. New developments in managing collections.

Security measures were strengthened in the library according to an assessment report done in 2006. Assessment of the condition of manuscripts and older collections is under way and several units are repaired every year. More emphasis is now on repairing and renewal of binding of older material than in binding new material.

- *Digital ingest and storage*

A new system for digitization of material was taken into use.

- *Digital preservation*

A contract was made with Skyr, which is a leading IT company in Iceland, to preserve copies of the web archive.

6. New developments in providing access to collections.

- *Digital resource discovery*

A full bibliographic catalogue for Icelandic material published before 1844 has been in preparation for many years. The plan is to publish it in 2009 and also to start digitizing all the items in the catalogue and open access to it. NULI is a partner in the European Enrich project for digitizing and cataloguing manuscripts.

7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums).

NULI is an active partner in the Icelandic library system, Gegnir (Aleph from ExLibris). Gegnir hosts the national catalogue and gives access to information about material in most libraries in the country. It is run by Consortium of Icelandic Libraries. NULI is taking part in a project of the Consortium to investigate possibilities of a union search engine for Icelandic digital material.

NULI runs the National licences to electronic journals and databases, hvar.is. The licences are paid by institutions and majority of libraries in the country. The economic crisis in 2008 was a major blow for the project and a lot of effort has been put in to try save the project.

NULI is partner of Nordbib (Nordic Open Access program) the European projects TEL, TELPlus, Europeana and Enrich and web archiving projects run by IIPC.